

# White River National Forest



## Current Conditions

### Rifle Ranger District

Need Info? 970-625-2371

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**LAST UPDATED: September 10, 2020**

**This report is a general description of the broader area; all conditions are subject to change.**

**Remember to "Know Before You Go."**

**Always bring a map and compass, and be prepared for any conditions on the roads and trails.**

**Current Condition Overview:** Roads and trails have dried out nicely. Occasional mud holes may be present after a rain. Seasonal gates are open.

**Campgrounds:** Meadow Lake and Meadow Ridge campgrounds are closed for the 2020 season due to Covid-19. Dispersed camping is encouraged.

**Seasonal Advisory:** The "summer" travel season begins May 21 and continues through November 20.

**Food Storage & Camping:** Effective May 2019 – October 2023, visitors camping in developed sites or dispersed sites must store food in a bear-resistant container or inside vehicles in sealed containers. Approved bear-resistant containers for backpacking can be found [here](#). Please view the Forest Order [here](#).

**Responsible Forest Use:** Responsible use by all visitors is key to a sustainable recreation system. Follow these tips to ensure you protect the places you love to play:

- Stay on designated roads, trails, and areas as identified on the motor vehicle use map (MVUM) free at district offices and available on website.
- Be respectful of other road and trail users.
- Respect property boundaries and know what uses are allowed if you enter non-Forest Service property.
- Do not widen trails by going around obstacles and do not create shortcuts.
- Avoid wet, muddy trails.
- Cross streams only at designated fords.
- Have a safety plan.

**Practice social distancing.**

**Due to recent high winds, hazard trees are numerous. Use extreme caution in wooded areas. Expect downed trees on roadways and trails.**

**STAGE 2 FIRE BAN.**

**NO FIRES OR CHARCOAL ALLOWED.**

Dirt & 4WD Roads	Conditions
Rifle Area Roads	
FSR 211 – Bar HL	Open
FSR 825 – Little Box	Open. High clearance

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FSR 832 – Rifle Creek/Coulter Mesa	Open. With the recent moisture, expect the roads to be slick and slimey.
FSR 833 – Tangle Gulch to Bar HL	Open
<b>Battlement Mesa Area Roads</b>	
FSR 818 – West Mamm	Open
FSR 824 – Beaver Creek	Open
FSR 847 – Battlement Reservoirs	Open. High clearance, difficult jeep road
<b>New Castle Area Roads</b>	
FSR 245 – Buford-New Castle (BNC)	Open
FSR 603 – Clinetop	Open
FSR 636 – Boiler Creek	Open
FSR 651 – Burnt Ridge	Open
FSR 654 – East Elk	Open
FSR 819 – Cherry Creek	Open
FSR 820 – Mansfield Ditch	Open
NFST 2290 – BNC Parallel Route	Open
<b>Glenwood Springs Area Roads</b>	
FSR 602 – Transfer	Closed due to Grizzly Creek Fire
FSR 614 – Grizzly & White Owl Lakes	Open

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FSR 631 – Bowen Loop	Open
FSR 632 – Grizzly Cow Camp	Open
FSR 637 – Blue Lake	Open
NFST 1846 – Windy Point Bypass	Open
<b>Southwest &amp; Central Flat Tops Area</b>	
FSR 601 (West) – Hiner Spring to Blair Mountain	Open
FSR 601 (East) – Blair Mountain to Carbonate	Open
FSR 601.2F – Cow Lake	Open
FSR 640 – Elk Lakes to Bison Lake	Open
FSR 647 – Bench	Open
FSR 648 – West Ute Creek	Open
FSR 649 – Corral Point	Open
FSR 650 – Corral Creek	Open
FSR 821 – Meadow Creek Cow Camp	Open
FSR 822 – Clark Ridge	Open
FSR 823 – Meadow Lake	Open
<b>West Divide Area Roads</b>	
FSR 800 – Cayton to Haystack Park	Open. With the recent moisture, roads will likely be muddy.
FSR 801 – East Divide Creek, Uncle Bob	Open. Road very rutted
FSR 812 – Elk Park	Open
FSR 843 – Mosquito Creek	Open

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Trail	Conditions
Battlement Reservoirs/Lava Creek #2160.5	Open
Beaver Creek #2164	Open
Blair Lake #2048	Open
Cayton Gulch #2162	Open
Cherry Creek #2256	Open
East Elk (Centennial) #1841	Open
Grizzly Creek #2065	Open
Hadley Gulch #1840	Open
Lake Park #2172	Open
Last Chance #2158	Open
Main Elk #2157	Open
Mansfield Ditch #2291	Open and cleared
Mitchell Creek #1845	The parking at the fish hatchery is closed until further notice. Slide on trail
No Name #1847	Open and cleared
Reno Gulch #2163	Open
Spring Creek #2068	Open
Three Forks #2150	Open and cleared
West Elk Stock Driveway #2152	Open
Zig Zag #2061	Open

**Special Alerts and Notices:** Please dress appropriately for changing weather conditions.

Do not rely on your cell phone for emergencies. Many areas do not have coverage.

Expect hazard trees in wooded areas. High winds have been frequent this year, resulting in a lot of blow-down.

**STAGE 2 FIRE BAN. NO FIRES OR CHARCOAL ALLOWED.**  
**SOME ROADS REMAIN CLOSED DUE TO GRIZZLY CREEK FIRE. FOR MORE**  
**INFORMATION – [inciweb.org](http://inciweb.org)**